

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 A-01

OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 AID-05 PC-05

SCCT-01 EB-07 CU-04 (ISO) W
----- 029234

R 251623Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7369 PRIORITY

UNCLAS LIMA 8876

SUBJECT: MORE STUDENT/POLICE CLASHES

TAGS: PINR, PE

1. DESPITE OFFICIAL EXHORTATIONS TO ABANDON PROTESTS AND LIMITED POLICE ALERT, SCATTERED STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUED IN SEVERAL PARTS LIMA THROUGHOUT DAYLIGHT HOURS OF OCTOBER 24. POLICE REPORT THAT STUDENT CROWDS AS HIGH AS 4,000 INVOLVED AND SOME DISPERSED FORCEFULLY. DOWNTOWN LIMA HAS APPEARED NORMAL MOST OF TIME AND THERE HAVE

BEEN NO REPORTED INJURIES OR THREATS TO U.S. CITIZENS. ASSISTANT MANAGER OF BOLIVAR, WHICH FREQUENTED BY U.S. TOURISTS, COMPLAINED THAT SOME OF HIS MORE MODISH DRESSED GUESTS HAVE BEEN CHASED BY POLICE, ONE TEAR GAS BOMB LOBBED INTO HOTEL FOYER, AND TWO WINDOWS BROKEN.

2. PRIME MINISTER VARGAS PRIETO REENFORCED EARLIER CALL BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR CALM. HE SAID: "A GOVERNMENT HAS ITS LIMITS. WE HAVE OPENED THE DOORS WITH COMPLETE FRANKNESS AND SINCERITY TO THE PERUVIAN PEOPLE, BUT PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPECT THE GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN TRANQUILITY AND PUBLIC SECURITY." THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ALSO ISSUED TWO COMMUNIQUE. THE FIRST SAID THAT THE AGITATION AT THE SALF PLANT BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, WHICH TOUCHED
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OFF THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS OCTOBER 22,
WAS A FALSE ISSUED SINCE THE GOP HAD ALREADY INFORMED THE STUDENTS
THAT THE PLANT WOULD BE CONVERTED INTO A SCHOOL TO MEET THEIR NEEDS.
THE SECOND BULLITIN CALLED UPON STUDENTS, PARANTS, AND LOCAL
EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO RESTRAIN THE DEMONSTRATORS.

3. COMMENT. THE GOP'S OFFICIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUE TO TREAT DIS-
TURBANCES AS MATTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY AND ORDER. THE PRESS OF OCTO-
BER 25 IS SOMEWHAT DIVIDED IN EMPHISIS WITH SOME PLAYING DOWN THE
STUDENT TROUBLES WHILE OTHERS CONTINUE DRAMATIC AND ALMOST INFLAMM-
ATORY CAMPAIGN AGAINST "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES." ONE SUCH DAILY,
CRONICA, RAN TWO PAGE SPREAD OF STUDENT MARCHERS. THEY APPEARED
TO BE DISCIPLINED, YOUNG, PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS. THE ONLY INDIS-
CIPLINE AND VIOLENCE IN PHOTOS WAS REFLECTED IN SCENES OF POLICE
CHASING STUDENTS AND AFTERMATH IN WHICH SOME PUBLIC STREETS APPEARED
EXTENSIVELY LITTERED WITH STONES AND BURNING DEBRIS.
DEAN.

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